

the 22nd Congressional District who serve on my Congressional Youth Advisory Council. I have gained much by listening to the high school students who are the future of this great nation. They provide important insight into the concerns of our younger constituents and hopefully get a better sense of the importance of being an active participant in the political process. Many of the students have written short essays on a variety of topics and I am pleased to share these with my House colleagues.

Walker Shores is a junior at Austin High School in Fort Bend County, Texas. His essay topic is: Select an important event that has occurred in the past 50 years and explain how that event has changed our country.

On the 4th of November, 1979, several hundred Iranian students inspired by anti-American statements and speeches from their "Supreme Leader", Ruhollah Khomeini, invaded the United States Embassy in Tehran. Due to the aftermath of the recent revolution, and inflamed by the support and endorsement of the regime the wayward students had come to love, what was supposed to last only a few hours became a 444 day nightmare for the fifty two American diplomats, aides, attaches, and Marine Embassy Guards held within Tehran.

The sitting president, Jimmy Carter, immediately attempted diplomatic means to persuade the Iranians to see reason. However, after almost a year with no progress in the negotiations, President Carter was convinced by his cabinet to organize a military strike in Iran to free the hostages, using the newly created Delta Force. Operation Eagle Claw was scheduled to take place on April 24, 1980.

Due to a lack of communication between all of the services involved, and an absence of a clear chain of command, the operation was a failure. Two helicopters were disabled by a sandstorm and another due to electronic failures, then a fourth helicopter collided with a C-130 tanker, destroying both of the vehicles and killing eight service members. The fiasco among the fledgling special forces community was the catalyst for the creation of SOCOM, or Special Operations Command. This organization would help Delta Force, the Navy SEALs, and the Green Berets become the immeasurably powerful foreign policy tool that they are today.

At Jimmy Carter's last State of the Union speech, our thirty ninth president did something rather out of character, changing the way America would treat the Persian Gulf region forever. For the first three years of Carter's administration, he advocated peace and diplomacy as the primary, if not only, response to challenges and crises around the world. He tried to cut down on the United States's consumption of oil, and symbolically shut off the lights on the White House Christmas Tree to save power. However, due to the overthrow of the once ardently pro-U.S. Iranian regime under his administration, this speech had a more somber tone. At the time, there were still hostages in Tehran, and there were severe fluctuations in the price of oil in the United States due to the dubiousness of the middle eastern oil supply. In the most groundbreaking speech of his career, Carter pledged to use American resources, and military unit if need be, to explicitly protect overseas sources of oil.

This was the first time that The United States had made a foreign policy statement

to commit their military to defend natural resources. This decree dramatically shaped how the United States treated the region, and how future presidents would be obliged to act. Both the new foreign policy doctrine and the creation of SOCOM were two of the direct results of the hostage taking at the American embassy in Tehran on November 4th, 1979.

OZARK BEACH DAM 100 YEAR ANNIVERSARY

HON. BILLY LONG

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 4, 2013

Mr. LONG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 100th Anniversary of Empire District Electric Company's Ozark Beach Dam.

In early 1911, two businessmen from St. Louis formed the Ozark Power and Water Company and obtained permission from Congress to erect a hydroelectric dam across the White River at Ozark Beach.

Unfortunately, the financial backing the men had secured was lost. At this point, the Ambursen Hydraulic Construction Co. of Boston became involved with the project. They took the plan for the dam to the Henry L. Doherty & Company of New York, a company that had been investing in electric and gas companies in Missouri and Kansas, primarily due to the lead and other mining operations that were springing up in the states. The Doherty Company, which later formed the basis of the Empire District Electric Company through the consolidation of several utilities, began work on the dam.

The dam was completed and the White River was officially closed off on March 20, 1913, creating Lake Taneycomo. Power began flowing on September 1, 1913.

Upon completion, the dam housed five, 25-cycle turbines that were rated at two megawatts each. Energy from the dam was carried north to the Nichol Street Substation in Springfield on steel towers and then west to Joplin. This line carried 66,000 volts of electricity which involved considerable pioneering since transmission facilities were limited in the "Ozark" country. The 150-mile line was also considered an engineering achievement, since transformers, insulators, switching, and the general design were just being developed for such a high voltage.

With the exception of some reinforcement work completed on the dam in the early 1920's, the dam remained unchanged until the early 1930's when the original 25-cycle equipment was replaced. The power house interior was redesigned to house new vertical water wheels and four, four-megawatt, 60-cycle generators were installed.

In 1995, the plant received further modernization. Following installation of some control equipment, the plant became remotely operated from the Company's Systems Operation Center in Joplin.

Starting in 2002, each one of the turbines was replaced with stainless steel turbines with

additional horsepower improvements. The turbines were replaced one per year with the last one coming online in March 2005.

With the exception of several modernization upgrades, the dam stands much the same as it was when finished in 1913. It provides the Empire District system with 16 megawatts of power and the Taney County area with a beautiful recreational area.

I would like to take this opportunity to commemorate the 100th Anniversary of Empire District Electric Company's Ozark Beach Dam.

HONORING CHARLES MOORE

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 4, 2013

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a remarkable public servant. Mr. Charles Moore. Mr. Moore passed away March 14, 2006 and was married to the former Alfolonia Matthews, the father of 5 children, and grandfather of 3.

Mr. Moore was a native Greenville. His entire life has been lived in Greenville except for a brief period when he served in the United States Marine Corps during World War II. After coming home and completing his high school requirements, he realized he had to make a decision. Either he would leave Greenville or stay and make it a better place for all to live. He chose the latter.

His goals and aspirations were achieved by the following: getting involved in voter registration in the 1950's; getting involved with the inception of Delta Ministry in Greenville, in 1966; helping organize the effort to bring Headstart to his community in 1966; helping organize the effort to integrate Greenville Public Schools in 1968; spearheading the organization of Herbert Lee Center where civil rights meetings were held, which still exists; coordinating several Washington County campaigns; recipient of the Harriet Tubman Award, from the Magnolia Bar Association in 1966; and, recipient of the Point of Pride Award March in 1966.

Mr. Moore was a member of the Church of Christ Holiness, past Commander and lifetime member of Veteran of Foreign Wars (VFW), past president of the Greenville Travel Club, retired member of the National Association of Letter Carrier Union (NALC) and the past President of Branch 516 of the NALC. He was also a member of the Secretary of State Dick Molpus Task Force. He filed a discrimination complaint that resulted in Blacks being promoted to managerial positions in the United States Post Office. He was a member of the NAACP since 1946 until his death. He was elected to the City Council, Ward 4 in July 1990 and re-elected for a 4 year term in October 1993. Also, he held the position of vice-mayor of the City of Greenville.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mr. Charles Moore for his dedication to serving others and giving back to the African American community.